United Nations A/CONF.219/1

Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries

Istanbul, Turkey
9-13 May 2011

Distr.: General
12 April 2011

Original: English

Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries
Istanbul, 9-13 May 2011

Annotated provisional agenda for the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries

Note by the Secretary-General of the Conference

The Secretary-General of the Conference has the honour to transmit herewith the annotated provisional agenda for the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries. The annotations have been prepared by the Secretariat in accordance with the usual practice, taking into account decisions of the Intergovernmental Preparatory Committee.

With regard to organizational matters, the Secretariat will issue a detailed schedule of meetings prior to the Conference.

11-29670 (E) 150411

Please recycle

Annotated provisional agenda

Provisional agenda

1. Opening of the Conference.
2. Election of the President.
3. Adoption of the rules of procedure.
4. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work, including the establishment of subsidiary organs.
5. Election of officers other than the President.
6. Credentials of representatives participating in the Conference:
   (a) Appointment of members of the Credentials Committee;
   (b) Report of the Credentials Committee.
7. General debate.
8. Consideration of the draft outcome documents of the Conference.
9. Other business.
10. Adoption of the report of the Conference.

Annotations

1. The General Assembly, in its resolution 63/227 of 19 December 2008, decided to convene the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries at a high level in 2011, and, in its resolution 65/171 of 20 December 2010, accepted the offer of Turkey to host the Conference. The Conference will be held in Istanbul from 9 to 13 May 2011, in the Lutfi Kirdar Convention and Exhibition Centre.

2. The mandate of the Conference, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 63/227, is as follows:

(a) To undertake a comprehensive appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action by the least developed countries and their development partners, share best practices and lessons learned, and identify obstacles and constraints encountered, as well as actions and initiatives needed to overcome them;

(b) To identify effective international and domestic policies in the light of the outcome of the appraisal as well as new and emerging challenges and opportunities and the means to address them;

(c) To reaffirm the global commitment to addressing the special needs of the least developed countries made at the major United Nations conferences and summits, including the Millennium Summit and the 2005 World Summit, in particular the needs related to sustainable development in its economic, social and environmental dimensions, and to support the least developed countries in eradicating poverty and integrating beneficially into the global economy;

(d) To mobilize additional international support measures and action in favour of the least developed countries, and, in this regard, to formulate and adopt a

renewed partnership between the least developed countries and their development partners.

3. The Conference will be open to the participation of the following, upon invitation or designation by the Secretary-General of the Conference and in accordance with the rules of procedure of the Conference:

(a) Representatives of States Members of the United Nations;

(b) Representatives of the European Union;

(c) Representatives of intergovernmental organizations and other entities that have received a standing invitation from the General Assembly to participate in the capacity of observer in the sessions and work of all international conferences convened under its auspices;

(d) Representatives of the specialized agencies and related organizations;

(e) Representatives of interested United Nations organs;

(f) Representatives of non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council;

(g) Representatives of other intergovernmental organizations invited by the Secretary-General of the Conference;

(h) Representatives of civil society organizations as specified in paragraph 13 of General Assembly resolution 65/171;

(i) Other persons invited by the Secretary-General of the Conference;

(j) Persons and representatives of other intergovernmental organizations invited by the Government of Turkey.

Item 1
Opening of the Conference

4. The Conference will be opened on Monday, 9 May 2011, at 9 a.m., at the Lutfi Kirdar Convention and Exhibition Centre, in Istanbul. The daily schedule will be announced in the daily *Journal of the United Nations*. The Secretary-General of the United Nations, the Secretary-General of the Conference, or a member of the Secretariat designated by either shall preside until the Conference has elected its President.

Item 2
Election of the President

5. It is customary for the head of the delegation of the host of the Conference (Turkey) to be elected as the President of the Conference.

Item 3
Adoption of the rules of procedure

6. The provisional rules of procedure for the Conference are contained in document A/CONF.219/IPC/L.2. The Preparatory Committee, at its second session, approved the provisional rules of procedure and recommended them for adoption by the Conference.

Item 4
Adoption of the agenda and organization of work, including the establishment of subsidiary organs

Adoption of the agenda

7. The provisional agenda for the Conference, as approved by the Preparatory Committee at its second session, appears above.

Organization of work

8. It should be noted that:

(a) The resources available for the Conference will be distributed, as required, among the plenary meetings, the Committee of the Whole, the Credentials and General Committees, and high-level interactive thematic debates. Limited services may be provided for regional group meetings and other events if facilities are available;

(b) The detailed working hours of the Conference will be indicated in a timetable to be circulated prior to the Conference;

(c) Plenary meetings will be broadcast live on the Internet;

(d) The high-level interactive thematic debates will be on the following themes: resource mobilization for least developed countries' development and global partnership; enhancing productive capacities and the role of the private sector in least developed countries; harnessing trade for least developed countries' development and transformation; human and social development, gender equality and empowerment of women; reducing vulnerabilities, responding to emerging challenges and enhancing food security in least developed countries; and good governance at all levels.

Establishment of subsidiary organs

9. In line with rule 48 of the provisional rules of procedure, the Conference is to establish a Committee of the Whole. Pursuant to rule 6 of the provisional rules of procedure, the Committee of the Whole will be chaired by a Chair elected by the Conference. Under rule 50 of the provisional rules of procedure, the Committee of the Whole shall, unless it decides otherwise, elect a Vice-Chair.

10. The Committee of the Whole is to consider item 9 of the provisional agenda and, in doing so, elaborate a Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020 on the basis of a draft prepared by the Preparatory Committee.

11. In accordance with rule 49 of the provisional rules of procedure, the Conference and the Committee of the Whole may establish working groups. In the establishment of working groups, account shall be taken of the availability of conference-servicing facilities.

Item 5
Election of officers other than the President

12. Rule 6 of the provisional rules of procedure provides for the election of a President, a Rapporteur, 15 Vice-Presidents and a Chair for the Committee of the Whole to be established under rule 48. These 18 officers will constitute the General Committee (Bureau). In line with the same rule, the Vice-Presidents will be elected after the election of the Chair of the Committee of the Whole.

Item 6
Credentials of representatives participating in the Conference

(a) Appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee

13. Rule 4 of the provisional rules of procedure provides that a Credentials Committee of nine members shall be appointed at the beginning of the Conference and that its composition shall be based on that of the Credentials Committee of the General Assembly of the United Nations at its sixty-fifth session. The States members of that Committee are: Bahamas, China, Finland, Gabon, Guatemala, Kenya, Russian Federation, Singapore and United States of America.

(b) Report of the Credentials Committee

14. Rule 4 of the provisional rules of procedure provides that the Credentials Committee shall examine the credentials of representatives and report to the Conference without delay. Rule 3 provides that the credentials of representatives and the names of alternate representatives and advisers shall be submitted to the Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations, High Representative for Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, who is the Secretary-General of the Conference, if possible not less than two weeks before the date fixed for the opening of the Conference. The credentials are to be issued by the Head of State or Government or by the Minister for Foreign Affairs or, in the case of the European Union, by the President of the European Council or the President of the European Commission.

Item 7
General debate

15. Particular attention is drawn to the question of statements in the general debate. Such statements will be delivered in a conference room specially equipped to allow live webcasting. The statements will begin on 9 May. Pursuant to rule 22 of the provisional rules of procedure, the list of speakers will be closed at the end of the third day of the Conference. Statements made in the general debate by

representatives of States participating in the Conference shall be limited to 10 minutes and those of other participants to 8 minutes.

Item 8
Consideration of the draft outcome documents of the Conference

16. For the consideration of this item, the Conference will have before it the following documents:

(a) Draft Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020 (formulated by the Intergovernmental Preparatory Committee) (A/CONF.219/___);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General: Ten-year appraisal and review of the implementation of the Brussels Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010 (A/66/66-E/2011/78);

(c) Report of the Intergovernmental Preparatory Committee for the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries on its second session (A/CONF.219/4);

(d) Report of the Intergovernmental Preparatory Committee on its first session (A/CONF.219/IPC/6);

(e) Summary of outcome documents of pre-Conference events (A/CONF.219/IPC/10);

(f) Report of the regional preparatory review meeting for Africa and Haiti (A/CONF.219/IPC/3);

(g) Report of the regional-level preparatory review meeting for Asia-Pacific and Yemen (A/CONF.219/IPC/4);

(h) Draft political Declaration (A/CONF.219/___);

(i) Other background documents:

(i) Synthesis of national reports on the review of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010;

(ii) Pre-Conference events organized in preparation for the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries (issues one and two);

(iii) Report of the Group of Eminent Persons;

(iv) *The Least Developed Countries Report 2010* (UNCTAD/LDC/2010).

Item 9
Other business

17. Any administrative and financial implications of proposed actions of the Conference will be brought to the attention of the Conference by the Secretariat and subsequently put before the General Assembly.

Item 10
Adoption of the report of the Conference

18. It is suggested that the report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries should consist of an introduction and three parts. The first part should contain an Istanbul Declaration and the second part a Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020; the third part should be on organizational and procedural matters.